

Workingmen's Houses,
John Byrne House
666 Dodge Street
Dubuque
Dubuque County
Iowa

HABS No. IA-159-AT

HABS
IOWA,
31-DUBU
14-4F-

**PHOTOGRAPHS
HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA**

Historic American Buildings Survey
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
P.O. Box 25287
Denver Colorado 80225

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Site Location: 666 Dodge Street
Dubuque, Dubuque County, Iowa
DOT designation: Resource Site No. 3.14
Cadastral grid : NW1/4 SE1/4 S25 T89N R2E
USGS quadrangle: Dubuque South Iowa 7.5'
UTM coordinates: 15.691630.4706790
Lot dimensions : 30'x 100': .07 acre
Lot description: Lot 10 of Newman, Cooper
and Smyth's Subdivision
of Out Lot 695

Present Owner: Iowa Department of Transportation
Present Usage: vacant
Present Condition : fair

Overall Dimensions: 1-story main section: 12'x 34'6"; front porch: 12'x 4'.
Orientation : northwest
Architectural Plan type : rectangular, one-story.
Description: Foundation: parged stone perimeter walls.
Structure : wood frame
Ext. walls: brick-pattern asphalt siding over beveled wood
siding; vertically placed wood flushboards
cover front wall of house under porch and
front porch crawl space.
Roofs : moderately pitched, front-gabled roof over main
section; moderately pitched hip over front
porch; 3-tab asphalt shingles throughout.
Chimneys : brick exterior chimney on west wall, offset
toward the street.
Dormers : none
Windows : 1/1 double-hung, plain casings, slip sills.
Openings : 6-light door in second bay of front.
Porches : single-story, full-width front porch with
hipped roof supported by 3 square wood columns;
six wooden steps with plain board handrail
enters porch from side.
Details : plainly boxed cornices on main and porch roofs;
detached, concrete block garage set at rear of
lot on east side.

Construction Date : c.1875

Architecture Style: Gable ended box

Physical History : In 1869 prominent Dubuque capitalists A.A. Cooper, William Newman and Edward Smyth subdivided the north part of Out Lot 695 into fourteen

residential lots. Although he did not actually gain title to Lot 10 of the subdivision until 1900, directory evidence indicates that John Byrne occupied this house as early as 1875. Working as a fireman, stoker and later a yardman for the Key City Gas Company facility on Bluff Street [HABS No. IA-160-AY], Byrne - and after his death, his widow Ann - occupied the house until selling it to Frank and Margaret Newt [Nutt] in 1911. The Newts immediately sold the property to real estate dealer Charles Reynolds, although they continued to live here for four years, apparently on a rental basis. In 1915 David Wall purchased the house and in turn sold it to Genevieve Morgan, a widow, a year later. Since then the house has been occupied by a series of tenants, including Charles Allgeyer (mid-1920s), Arth Montag (early 1940s) and William Glass (c.1952-1983). It has recently been acquired by the Iowa Department of Transportation for demolition.

Significance: Although its single story is atypical of what is primarily a two-story neighborhood, the John Byrne House is still a simply configured gable ended box, the prevalent house type along lower Dodge Street. Most or all of the elements of the front porch have evidently been replaced, the roof covered with asphalt shingles, the exterior walls sheathed with asphalt roll siding and the garage added, but the building still retains a degree of integrity. It is historically and architecturally representative of the workingmen's residences built in south Dubuque in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

References: Dubuque City Directories: 1857 - 1970.
Dubuque County Assessment Record: 3-24-5-25.
Iowa Department of Transportation, "Draft Environmental
Impact Statement - Cultural Resources Assessment."
Land Title Abstract (located at Iowa Department of
Transportation, Ames Iowa).

Compiler: Clayton B. Fraser, Fraserdesign, Loveland Colorado.
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